

Ser. No. 10/728,318 (Conf. No: 9374) (Barry G. Lawrence)

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Filed: 12/04/2003

Amendment dated April 27, 2005

Responding to Office Action dated March 28, 2005

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's courtesy during the telephone conversation of April 13, 2005, with respect to the pending application.

The Examiner has deemed final his rejection of all thirty pending claims as either anticipated or obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,736,972 to Mosch. In so doing, however, the Examiner suggested claiming the functional interaction between the keeper recess (defined by the housing) and the keeper.

During the previously mentioned telephone conversation, Applicant proposed adding the Examiner's suggested recitation to the independent claims in a *bona fide* attempt to advance the prosecution toward allowance. The Examiner indicated that such an amendment would define over the Mosch reference.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 13, and 22 are herein amended to include the housing constructed to fit enclosably over at least part of the keeper. The amendment is fully supported in Paragraph 12 of the specification.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the amendments to the independent claims define over the Mosch patent. Likewise, all claims dependent from Claims 1, 13, and 22 define over Mosch. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) rejections.

Furthermore, Applicant files herewith a RCE and the appropriate fee to ensure consideration of this amendment.

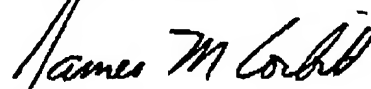
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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-30 are in condition for immediate allowance and the same is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Commissioner for Patents to the attention of Examiner John B. Walsh at Fax No. 703-872-9306 on April 27, 2005.

April 27, 2005
Date


Patricia Summers